

1957—RESOLUTIONS

During the First World War, Thurmond Chatham enlisted in the United States Navy as a Seaman Second Class and served from May 1917 to June 1919. In World War II, he again served in the Navy from February 14, 1942, to November 25, 1945, with combat duty in the Southwest Pacific. He was decorated with the Bronze Star Medal, the Secretary of the Navy's Commendation Medal, the Royal Order of Nassau with swords from the Dutch Government, American Theater Ribbon, European Theater Ribbon, Asiatic Theater Ribbon with three battle stars, World War I Ribbon and the Victory Ribbon; and

WHEREAS, Thurmond Chatham went to work in the mills of the Chatham Manufacturing Company in July 1919 and rose through various positions to the presidency of the corporation and Chairman of the Board of Directors. He engaged in agricultural pursuits as owner and operator of Klondike Farm at Elkin, North Carolina. He served as President of the North Carolina Dairymen's Association, as a member of the State Board of Conservation and Development and as a County Commissioner of Forsyth County. He was a member of the National Grange, the Farm Bureau Federation, of the Visiting Committee of Woman's College at Greensboro, of the Board of Directors of the Methodist Children's Home at Winston-Salem, a Director of the Hugh Chatham Hospital at Elkin and a member of the Society of Cincinnati; and

WHEREAS, Thurmond Chatham served ably and with great distinction in the Congress of the United States for eight years, 1949-1957; and

WHEREAS, he was first married to Miss Lucy Hanes, to which marriage two sons, Hugh Gwyn Chatham and Richard Thurmond Chatham, Jr., were born. After the death of his first wife, he was married to Mrs. Patricia Firestone Coyner on November 16, 1950, to which marriage Walter Firestone Chatham was born:

Now be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

Section 1. The members of the General Assembly of North Carolina, Session of 1957, unite in expressing for the State of North Carolina and for the Nation their deep sorrow for the irreparable loss sustained by the death of the Honorable Thurmond Chatham who distinguished himself as a leader both in the State and in the Nation.

Sec. 2. As a token of great respect to and high esteem for the honored and beloved memory of Thurmond Chatham, the General Assembly, Session of 1957, hereby extends its deep and sincere sympathy to the members of his family and expresses to them its grateful thanks for the many benefits derived by the State of North Carolina from the distinguished services rendered to it by Thurmond Chatham during his lifetime.

Sec. 3. This Resolution shall be incorporated in the permanent records of this General Assembly as a tribute and expression of respect to the memory of Thurmond Chatham and a copy thereof shall be furnished to the members of his immediate family.

Sec. 4. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its ratification.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified, this the 21st day of February, 1957.